

CHEF Connection

FEBRUARY 2025



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Obstetrics and Gynecology
Jeffersonville, GA



Justin Chin, DO, MEd
Family Medicine
Richmond, CA



Kathi Earles, MD
Pediatrics
Atlanta, GA



Lala Forrest, MD
Psychiatry
New Haven, CT



Fernando Fuentes, MD
Pulmonary/Critical Care
Denver, CO



Marshala Lee-Mccall, MD
Family Medicine
Wilmington, DE



Micah Nishigaki, MD
Family Medicine
Dallas, TX



Sheree Pottier, MD
Internal Medicine
Los Angeles, CA



Ifeanyi Otele, MD
Psychiatry
Fairfax, VA



Khalil Savary, MD
Pediatrics
Montclair, NJ



Selika Sweet, MD
Family Medicine
Tuscaloosa, AL



Audrey Tanksley, MD
Internal Medicine
Chicago, IL



Janelle White, MD
Family Medicine
Charlotte, NC



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Otolaryngology
Avondale Estates, GA

*A message from Dr. Shaneeta Johnson
-CHEF Fellowship Director*



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“We are thrilled to welcome our fifth cohort of the Climate Health and Equity Fellowship, bringing together doctors from across the country representing underrepresented in medicine communities. Their dedication to advancing climate and health equity is inspiring and we look forward to the impact they will make. We hope you enjoy this second edition of the CHEF Connection, where we continue to share insights, stories, and progress from our growing network.”

Welcome Class of 2025

For 2025, our fifth year of the CHEF Fellowship, we are proud to announce our cohort of 14 physician Fellows representing diverse specialties and backgrounds, including Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Internal Medicine, Otolaryngology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Pulmonary/Critical Care.

This year's cohort represents all regions of the United States, including from newly represented states of Colorado, New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware, and Alabama.

CHEF IN ACTION

OUR PLANET, OUR HEALTH: 2025 CLIMATE ACTION CONVENTION DC METRO AREA & ONLINE

MARCH 1 - 4, 2025



Our Planet, Our Health
2025 CLIMATE ACTION CONVENTION
March 1-4, 2025 | DC Metro Area & Online

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Join us from March 1-4, 2025, for this pivotal gathering of leaders, experts, and educators committed to driving progress toward a healthier, more sustainable, and just future.

On March 2nd, 5:45pm - 6:30pm EST, join us for a session featuring CAEN Fellows, Drs. Aisha Harris, Martina Kamaka, Condessa Curley, and Marcus Iwane, as they showcase their dynamic work in driving impactful change in their communities and beyond.

ALOHA 'ĀINA : HE HULIAU I KA PONO

A Turning Point for Planetary Prosperity



Hosted and sponsored by 'Ahaui o nā Kauka (Association of Native Hawaiian Physicians) with co-sponsors NCAPIP, Papa Ola Lōkahi, and the John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

This two-day educational and advocacy training conference for physicians and healthcare providers, convened local and international participants and attendees, to address health impacts of climate change on Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islander communities; i.e. sea level rise, coastal erosion impacts, and indigenous health & knowledge systems. The rich cultural history of health and healing was experienced through speakers, food and field trips to *Ho'oulu 'Āina* (a forest preserve/community garden.) and Kaiser Permanente West Oahu Medical Office at Kapolei (a gold LEED certified health clinic with it's own power grid (solar), all demonstrated the seamless integration of climate, land and water to human health.

See you there!

STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH OUR CALIFORNIA FELLOWS AND FACULTY

Our hearts are with everyone affected by the devastating wildfires in California. The effects of climate change are ever-present and increasing in severity and frequency. The Climate and Health Equity Fellowship stands in deep solidarity with those affected by these fires. We recognize climate change's disproportionate impact on vulnerable communities, and our hearts go out to those affected.

- CHEF Fellowship

SPOTLIGHT: CHEF ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT NETWORK (CAEN)

(from left to right)
Dr. Nicole Mahealani Lum (2022), Dr. Venise Curry (Fellowship Associate Director), Dr. C. Freeman (2024), Dr. Martina Kamaka (2024), Dr. Marcus Iwane (2023)

Partners

Our partners include the National Medical Association, the American Public Health Association, the American Medical Association, the Association of American Indian Physicians, Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ Equality, the Meharry School of Global Health, the National Hispanic Medical Association, the National Council of Asian Pacific Islander Physicians, and Virginia Sea Grant.



Funders

This program is made possible with the generous support of our funders: Johnson & Johnson, American Medical Association, Energy Foundation, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.



We sincerely thank our sponsors and partners for their continued collaboration and commitment to support our efforts. Together, we continue building alliances in cities and states with underrepresented and under-resourced communities where there has previously been little to no connection between health equity, climate change, and environmental justice.

2024-2025 Policy Experience in Equity, Climate, and Health Fellow (PEECH)

SPOTLIGHT
Dr. Glover on the impact of the wildfires in CA:

"...its become very evident that no matter what your ZIP Code or your social economic status is, we all are affected by climate change! And until we collectively decide to do something about it, we will all suffer!"



DR. ALFRED GLOVER,
CHEF 2023 GRADUATE
PEECH 2024 - 2025 FELLOW

Climate & Health Equity Fellowship